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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/902,946	07/11/2001	Shmuel Shaffer	062891.0542	9225

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EXAMINER

PHAM, BRENDA H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2664

DATE MAILED: 01/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/902,946	Applicant(s) SHAFFER ET AL.	
	Examiner Brenda Pham	Art Unit 2664	

-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,12,17,23,24,27 and 32-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 3,5-11,13-16,18-22,25,26,28-31,35 and 36 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-36 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-2, 4, 17, 23-24, 27 and 32-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by VANCE et al (US 6,411,605 B1).

Claims 1-2, 17, 23-24 and 32-33, VANCE et al discloses a method and apparatus for reserving a network resource for a multipoint conference, comprising: receiving a list of participants scheduled to participate in a conference; receiving a scheduled start time and estimated duration for the conference; predicting a plurality of communication paths, each communication path corresponding to at least one of the participants; and reserving the network resource along the communication paths for a predetermined period of time beginning at approximately the scheduled start time. THOMPSON et al, in the same field of endeavor teach this limitation (see column 2, lines 64-67, column 4, lines 50-60).

Claims 4, 27, 34, VANCE et al further teach wherein the network resource comprises ports of a gateway (34, 36, 38 of figure 1, column 2, lines 60-67).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over VANCE et al (US 6,411,605) in view of THOMPSON et al (US 5,491,797).

Claims 12, as explained in the rejection statement of claim 1 (parent claim). VANCE et al discloses all the claim limitation of claim 1.

VANCE et al does not teach wherein the multipoint conference comprises a Meet Me Conference call. THOMPSON et al, in the same field teach this limitation (column 6, lines 29-34). The invention relates to "meet me conference call" is also well known in the art whereby a plurality of customer establish a conference by simultaneously dialing an access code at a prearranged time. As known, meet me conference system, are utilized by having each conferee dial, at an agreed upon time, a code associated with the conference bridge.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to those having ordinary skill in the art to implement a "Meet Me Conference Call" in VANCE et al.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 3, 5-7, 8-11, 13-16, 18-22, 25-26, 28-31, 35-36 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art made of record does not teach or fairly suggests wherein the network resource comprises digital signal processor resources of a digital signal processor farm as in claims 3, 35-36.

The prior art made of record does not teach receiving an address of a host multipoint control unit and wherein the plurality of communication paths include the address as in claim 5-7.

The prior art made of record does not teach receiving a plurality of participant addresses, each participant address corresponding to at least one of the participants and wherein each participant address comprises an endpoint of at least one communication path as in claim 8-11.

The prior art made of record further fails to teach communicating information regarding reserved network resources to a plurality of network nodes using the resource reservation protocol as in claims 13-16.

The prior art made of record does not teach in combination digital signal processor resources, and wherein the processor is operable to reserve at least a portion

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of the digital signal processor resources for a predetermined period of time, beginning at approximately the scheduled start time as in claim 18-22, 25-26.

Conclusion

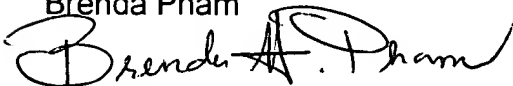
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brenda Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-3135. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wellington Chin, can be reached on (571) 272-3134.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

January 14, 2005

Brenda Pham

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brenda A. Pham". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "B" and "P".